AGRICULTURE

Participating Departments/Agencies/Associations

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
United States Department of Agriculture;
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS)
- Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA/APHIS/PPQ)
- Veterinary Services (USDA/APHIS/VS)

Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA)
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR)
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC)
Nebraska Health and Human Services System (HHSS)
Nebraska Military Department (MIL)
Nebraska State Fire Marshal (SFM)
Nebraska State Patrol (NSP)
University of Nebraska Systems (UNS)
Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)

I. PURPOSE

A. To provide for coordinated measures and procedures designed to detect, control and eradicate diseases, contamination, and contagions to animals, plants, and food as quickly as possible within the State of Nebraska.

B. To generate immediate, appropriate local, state and federal measures to eliminate the crisis and minimize the consequences in order to return the State of Nebraska to contagion free status.

II. SITUATION

A. The State of Nebraska is located in the Central Plains of the United States of America and covers an area of approximately 77,200 square miles. A high percentage of this land is used for agricultural purposes. Agricultural related resources, such as livestock, crops, and the food and products that are produced from these resources, are of prime importance to the state.

B. There are estimated to be 6.65 million head of cattle, 3.1 million head of swine, 116,000 head of sheep, 13.8 million poultry, and a domestic industry consisting of approximately 160,000 horses, elk, bison and others within the State of Nebraska that are vulnerable and potential targets of disease, either by natural infectious process or biological terrorist attack. Nebraska also has a free-ranging

animal population in excess of 300,000 deer, 5,000 pronghorn antelope, 300 elk and 120 bighorn sheep, which are also potential targets of disease.

C. There are an estimated 1.14 billion bushels of corn produced (12% of the U.S. total), 222 million bushels of soybeans, 35.7 million bushels of sorghum, and 1.79 million bushels of great northern beans produced (85% of the U.S. total). In addition, many other crops are grown within the state. These crops are all vulnerable and potential targets of disease or contamination, either through natural or accidental introduction, or through terrorist attack.

D. Nebraska agricultural industries provide much of the food consumed by the state's residents. There are approximately 5,000 restaurants, 600 retail groceries, 200 food processors, 150 bakeries, 160 warehouses, 1,400 convenience stores, and over 500 bars without restaurants in Nebraska. In addition, there are approximately 460 Grade A dairy producers and 50 manufacturing milk producers located in Nebraska. There are approximately 180 milk haulers operating for 32 transport companies. On a monthly basis, these haulers bring 97 million pounds of milk to the 15 Nebraska dairy plants, for production into milk and milk products. A major contamination or outbreak of disease could negatively affect the food supply for inhabitants.

E. Nebraska agricultural industries are also critical to the economic well being of the state's economy. A major contamination or outbreak of disease could negatively affect the industries and those businesses that depend on them. Export of grains, livestock and livestock products, and food would decrease or be banned. Businesses would fail. Tax revenue generated directly and indirectly would diminish dramatically. If the disease spreads to other states, it could have a devastating impact on the United States' ability to compete in the global marketplace.

F. A major contamination event or outbreak of disease could create environmental and public health hazards to the human population including exposure to hazardous materials and contaminated water supplies, crops, livestock, and food products. There could also be a significant mental health impact.

G. Response to contamination and/or disease may involve local, state, federal and other entities. No single local or state agency has full authority and expertise to act unilaterally, nor do they have the resources necessary to deal with a large-scale situation.

III. ASSUMPTIONS

A. The identification of animal or plant disease, or food, milk or dairy product contamination within the United States would affect the State of Nebraska. This could result in the creation and enforcement of movement controls of people, livestock, plant, food, milk and dairy products and other property.

B. Positive detection of such a contamination or disease elsewhere will prompt State Officials to employ additional precautions to prevent or mitigate the possibility of an occurrence locally.

C. There is a potential for the farming community, as well as local and State Officials, to receive a threat of contamination or disease as a mechanism of terrorism. They may also witness or be a victim of an event. If an incident were confirmed as being a terrorist event, the Terrorism Annex of the State of Nebraska Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) would be utilized in conjunction with this Annex.

D. Numerous local, state and federal agencies will play a role in mitigating an agricultural event. Operations regarding remediation and recovery have the potential to involve a massive amount of resources, due to the sheer volume potential.

E. Several to numerous associations may play a role. These associations, and their local and national counterparts, have the ability to communicate rapidly with individual members, providing two-way communication regarding pre-planning through emergency response and recovery.

F. Large quantities of crops, rangelands, domestic livestock and wildlife, and food may need to be destroyed or controlled to prevent the spread of contamination or disease after it has been confirmed within the State.

G. Vector control may be necessary. Vector-borne diseases can spread very quickly, necessitating quick response over a potentially wide area.

H. Immediate quarantine areas may be required where suspect or confirmed cases may have originated, and may require special operational procedures.

I. Eradication of the causative agent will require proper sanitary and disposal procedures for animal carcasses, plant materials and/or food. Suspect infected locations and transport vehicles may need to be cleaned and disinfected. Bio-security guidelines may need to be established.

J. Environmental protection regulations or procedures may need to be temporarily suspended to allow timely and efficient disposal of food, plant materials and/or euthanized livestock and wildlife.

K. There are several scenarios under which agriculture related incidents could affect the State of Nebraska. These scenarios are identified in Appendices 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this Annex.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. In the planning stage for Emergency Support Function 11 (ESF-11), it is recognized that under some agriculture disaster scenarios, especially those encompassing multiple (hundreds of) sites, the need for resources is tremendous.

B. Before, during, and immediately following a Governor's emergency proclamation, ESF-11 will be followed when requests for agricultural related assistance are made. When ESF-11 is activated, NDA, the ESF-11 Coordinator Agency will provide a representative to serve as the NEMA designated ESF Coordinator (ESFC.)

C. Federal agencies may provide support during emergency events. The United States Department of Agriculture has the power, in certain circumstances, to declare an emergency. In these cases, USDA representatives in Nebraska will work with NDA.

D. Upon State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) request, the ESFC will be available to respond to requests submitted through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA.) The ESFC will identify which participating departments/agencies/associations are needed, and take steps to ensure that the departments/agencies/associations are activated or on alert as appropriate.

E. The level of response to an event depends on the extent and severity of that event. While a natural disaster might bring about a short-lived, local response, the introduction of a major food contamination or Highly Contagious Animal Disease (CAD) could initiate a response from multiple sectors in multiple jurisdictions.

F. Specific response plans for livestock, plant, food, milk, and dairy product events are discussed in Appendix 1, Appendix 2, Appendix 3, and/or Appendix 4 of ESF-11.

V. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA).

1. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) is the Coordinator Agency for ESF-11. In the planning stages for ESF-11, NDA will do the following:

a. Develop and maintain a listing of principle contacts for all departments/agencies, Livestock Emergency Disease Response System (LEDRS), and association assets available to support a response and/or recovery mission. Volunteer and local agencies may be requested to contribute assets to the response effort;

b. Position resources in advance, or when it becomes apparent that resources will be required;

c. Develop a preparation/response/recovery plan which includes the logistical requirements necessary to obtain needed equipment;

d. Prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response;

e. Coordinate with Support departments/agencies to prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.

2. When ESF-11 is activated, the following operational requests may be made of the ESFC and/or other NDA personnel. The extent of the response will vary depending on the scope of the disaster or emergency incident and the resources that are available with which to respond. Generally, NDA will do the following:

a. The NDA Chief Administrator, or designated alternate, will serve as the Emergency Support Function Coordinator (ESFC) at the NEMA Emergency Operation Center (EOC).

b. Provide overall leadership, coordination, assessment and technical assistance in response to highly contagious animal diseases, plant diseases, and plant, food, milk, and dairy product contamination.

c. Provide support departments/agencies/associations with current information concerning locations of outbreaks, extent of involvement, and available diagnostic information.

d. The ESFC will identify which participating departments, agencies, and/or associations are needed, and take steps to ensure that they are activated or on alert, as appropriate.

e. Collect samples and forward to appropriate laboratory.

f. Provide communication through the NDA Public Information Officer (PIO), including information that may be coming through Federal counterparts. Also, the PIO will be the primary contact with other states, through the “Emergency Communications Plan” developed by the Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture (COSDA.) The purpose of this communications plan is to share critical information with all participating states in a timely manner in order to better manage the public message in an emergency situation that is regional or national in scope. A copy of this plan is found as Attachment 1 of this Annex.

g. Establish communications with appropriate field personnel and ensure that they are ready to respond in a timely manner.

h. Provide information on local agricultural conditions, resources, and producers.

i. Accumulate contamination/disease information obtained from assessment teams, the telecommunications industry, the local emergency operations center, and other local, state, and federal agencies.

j. Prepare and process reports using established procedures, focusing specific attention to the production of after-action reports.

k. Continually reassess priorities to address the most critical needs.

l. Track resources which are committed to specific missions.

m. Re-deploy and re-stage resources as appropriate.

n. Coordinate movement of any resource that may be needed in order to mitigate an event, and in recovery, from the potential disaster area to the nearest staging area, including evacuation and re-entry of a designated area.

B. Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary containment practices and procedures for carcass disposal, including necessary temporary on-site disposal.

2. Provide on-site assistance regarding temporary and/or permanent animal disposal.

3. Provide on-site assistance regarding environmental issues stemming from decontamination activities.

4. Approve waste disposal and/or treatment sites.

5. Provide technical advice on locations for cleaning and disinfecting stations.

6. Provide technical assistance on environmental regulations and requirements.

7. Provide information on locations of known livestock feeding operations.

C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary mapping information, to include specific information on topography and water tables.

2. Provide on-site mapping assistance.

D. Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR)

1. Provide guidance for re-routing of traffic in and around the affected area(s).

2. Identify traffic control issues and/or needs.

3. Assist with the transport of soil, carcasses, or debris.

4. Identify potential sources of outside assistance (i.e., contractors, equipment sources, etc.)

E. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

1. Activate and operate the SEOC; provide liaisons to affected jurisdictions; prepare situation reports for the Governor and receive and act on requests for assistance from county emergency managers/directors; coordinate the State's response with local governments; coordinate with FEMA and the Federal Response Plan; and assist in the coordination of disaster related public information.

2. Provide equipment and supplies, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) necessary to facilitate movement/destruction/disposal of contaminated product or huge numbers of large animals. Appendix 1, Attachment 1 of this Annex contains information on the type of equipment which may be needed for this process.

3. Provide communications to responders, especially in remote areas of the state.

4. Provide decontamination equipment and supplies (including PPE), and other chemicals necessary to decontaminate individuals and equipment, taking necessary environmental precautions.

F. Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC).

1. Provide containment and/or quarantine assistance to prevent the spread of highly contagious animal diseases to and through non-domesticated animals.

2. Provide, if necessary, sites for disposal of huge numbers of large animals.

3. Provide assistance with vector control, and location of cleaning and disinfecting stations.

4. Conduct surveillance on susceptible wild animal species, as required.

5. Reduce infected wildlife populations, as required.

6. Provide temporary accommodations and emergency feeding for field operation teams.

7. Provide general security, law enforcement, and traffic control, as required.

8. Provide heavy equipment for disposal operations.

9. Assist with the transportation of soil, carcasses, or debris.

G. Nebraska Health and Human Services System (HHSS).

1. Provide overall leadership, coordination, assessment, and technical assistance for public health needs in the event of a disaster or emergency, including mass care and quarantine needs.

2. Provide assistance and epidemiology services in dealing with zoonotic diseases.

3. Determine the potability of water supplies and identify other drinking water sources.

4. Provide mental health support to survivors, emergency responders, those that suffer significant property loss, and the public in general to prevent or minimize stress, grief, an depression that can occur following natural or manmade disasters.

H. Nebraska Military Department (MIL).

1. Provide containment and/or quarantine assistance to prevent the spread of highly contagious animal diseases

2. Provide incident security and traffic control, including management of approved entry to a site

3. Provide transportation for responders to and within sites

4. Provide protection to responders.

I. Nebraska State Fire Marshal (SFM)

Provide “Incident Management” training to local responders, including specialized training for handling animal incidents, including those where there are decontamination concerns.

J. Nebraska State Patrol (NSP).

1. Provide incident security, including management of approved entry to a site, law enforcement, and traffic control, as required.

2. Provide containment and/or quarantine assistance to prevent the spread of highly contagious animal diseases

3. Provide Protection to responders.

4. Provide Communication resources

5. Coordinate local law enforcement response, as required.

K. University of Nebraska System (UNS)

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages

2. Provide surveillance assistance in prevention/response/recovery stages

3. Provide laboratory services for animal, plant, food, milk, and dairy product related analytical needs.

4. Provide services (such as the UN-L Department of Veterinary and Bio Medical Science) to assist in diagnosis of animal disease.

5. Provide and distribute information regarding highly contagious animal diseases.

L. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages

2. Provide technical resources during prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory assistance.

4. Provide “Emergency Declaration” where necessary.

5. Provide the indemnification process, to include the cost of animals, and costs associated with an incident.

6. Direct all eradication activities, including quarantine, evaluation, slaughter, disposal, cleaning and disinfecting, epidemiology, trace back, vector control and transportation permit systems.

7. Collect, collate, analyze and disseminate technical and logistical information.

8. Define training requirements for casual employees or support agencies involved in eradication operations.

9 Issue declaration of the disease and define the infected area and control zones.

10. Prepare information for dissemination to the public, media, producers, processors and transportation industry.

11. Allocate funding for compensation to the owner of destroyed animals.

12. Restrict payment of compensation in cases of violation.

13. Consult with state and local authorities regarding eradication operations.

M. United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages for food contamination issues.

2 Provide technical assistance during prevention/response/recovery stages.

3 Provide laboratory assistance.

N. Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD).

Provide food and temporary shelter on-site, especially when an area is quarantined

O. Associations

Industry associations, and their national and local components, are an invaluable resource for emergency prevention, preparation, response, and recovery. Responsibilities under ESF-11 include:

1. Maintain lists of members, and other significant stakeholders, including lists of potential resources (i.e., transportation equipment; pre-positioning.)

2. Provide guidance and advice on site/plant security, potential response activity, and other appropriate information to members, based on industry and NDA recommendations,

3. Provide information to NDA regarding technological advances in the industry which may impact on handling emergencies,

4. Provide information to NDA regarding activities which might affect emergency response, including information about specific sites.

VI. TRAINING/EXERCISES

All agencies with responsibilities listed in this Annex should provide annual training. An orientation and/or tabletop exercise should be conducted annually to ensure adequate response to a threatened or actual outbreak of disease of non-human population as a result of a non-medical disaster. The objectives for these exercises should be based on the policies and procedures identified in this plan.

VII. AUTHORITY

A. Federal Government

1. Legal authority for the United States Department of Agriculture for response procedures for animal disease events, as identified in this Annex, may be found in USC Title 21, Section 134(a).

2. Legal authority for the United States Department of Agriculture for response procedures for plant events, as identified in this Annex, may be found in The Plant Protection Act, USC Title 7, sections 7701-7772.

3. Legal authority for the United States Health and Human Services Agency, Food and Drug Administration (USFDA), is found in the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, Title 21 CFR, parts 500-599.

B. State Government (NEMA and NDA)

1. Legal authority for the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's response procedures as identified in this Annex may be found in the Emergency Management Act of 1996, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-829.36 to 81-829.75 (Reissue 1996 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

2. Legal authority for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture's response procedures as identified in this Annex may be found in the following statutes: Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-201 (Reissue 1996), Neb. Rev. Stat. §54-701 (Reissue 1998 and Cum Supp. 2002), and Neb. Rev. Stat. §§54-1180 to 54-1182 (Reissue 1998 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

3. Legal authority for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture's response procedures for plant activities as identified in this Annex may be found in the following Acts: the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§2-1072 to 2-10,117; and, the Commercial Feed Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§54-847 to 54-863. (Reissue 1998).

4. Legal authority for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture's response procedures for food activities as identified in this Annex may be found in the following Act: the Nebraska Pure Food Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-2,257 to 81-2,261 (Reissue 1996 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

5. Legal authority for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture's response procedures for dairy activities as identified in this Annex may be found in the following Acts: the Nebraska Pasteurized Milk Law, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§S2-3901 to 2-3911 (Reissue 1997 and Cum Supp. 2002), and the Nebraska Manufacturing Milk Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§2-3913 to 2-3946 (Reissue 1997 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture
Emergency Communications Plan

I. Purpose

To share critical information with all participating states in a timely manner in order to better manage the public message in an emergency situation that is regional or national in scope.

II. Protocol

A. The COSDA Emergency Communications Plan will take effect upon an emergency situation with regional or national consequence.

B. The State Department of Agriculture PIO and/or the State Animal Health PIO in the primary affected state and/or the APHIS representative will notify the NASDA contact providing details of the plant and/or animal emergency situation in that state.

C. Each state and APHIS will provide NASDA with a primary, secondary, and tertiary contact person who can be notified at any hour of any day about an emergency situation. Upon notification by the affected state and/or APHIS representative, NASDA will arrange a conference call for the affected state to notify all COSDA members and primary state contacts of the emergency. The call will be held, preferably, at least one hour prior to any media announcement or alert from the affected state and/or APHIS representative.

D. During the conference call, the PIO/s of the affected state and/or the APHIS representative will share with COSDA members and primary state contacts pertinent information about the emergency situation as well as any information on the desired message that will be provided to the public.

E. The PIO/s of the affected state and the APHIS representative also will share news releases with NASDA for posting on the plant and animal emergency press clearinghouse web site and will provide updates via follow-up conference calls to fellow COSDA members and primary state contacts. NASDA will provide a link to the APHIS web site for their most current releases.

F. Each participant in the conference call will protect any and all confidential information shared during the conference call.

G. Significant animal and/or plant emergency situations which would not necessarily directly affect other states and which would be designated as only topics of interest to those states should be shared via email and/or regularly scheduled conference calls.

Agreed this _____ day of _____, 20___

SIGNATURE PAGE

_____
State Secretary/Director/Commissioner

_____
Communication Director/Public Information Officer

_____
State Veterinarian

_____
Communication Director/Public Information Officer

_____
State Plant Health Regulatory Director

_____
Communication Director/Public Information Officer

_____
NASDA Executive Director

_____
NASDA Director, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs

_____
APHIS Administrator

_____
APHIS, Legislative and Public Affairs

Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture
Emergency Communications Plan

CONTACTS

_____
STATE

Primary Contact Name: _____
Email Address: _____
Contact Number(s): _____
_____

Secondary Contact Name:_____
Email Address:_____
Contact Number(s): _____
_____

Tertiary Contact Name: _____
Email Address:_____
Contact Number(s): _____
_____

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LIVESTOCK DISEASE RESPONSE PLAN

Participating Departments/Agencies/Associations

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
United States Department of Agriculture;
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS)
- Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA/APHIS/PPQ)
- Veterinary Services (USDA/APHIS/VS)

Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA)
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR)
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC)
Nebraska Health and Human Services System (HHSS)
Nebraska Military Department (MIL)
Nebraska State Fire Marshal (SFM)
Nebraska State Patrol (NSP)
University of Nebraska System (UNS)
Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)
Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
Nebraska Cattlemen
Nebraska Cooperative Council
Nebraska Dairymen's Association
Nebraska Farm Bureau
Nebraska Grange
Nebraska Livestock Market Association
Nebraska Livestock Industries Association
Nebraska Pork Producers Association
Nebraska Poultry Industries, Inc.
Nebraska Sheep Council
Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association

I. PURPOSE

A. To provide for coordinated measures and procedures designed to detect, control and eradicate highly contagious animal disease (CAD) in livestock as quickly as possible within the State of Nebraska. CAD is a dangerous disease transmissible to or among livestock, which has the potential for rapid spread, serious economic impact, or serious threat to livestock health, and is of major importance in the trade of livestock and livestock products.

B. To generate immediate, appropriate local, state and federal measures to eliminate the crisis and minimize the consequences in order to return the State of Nebraska to contagion free status.

II. SITUATION

A. There are estimated to be 6.65 million head of cattle, 3.1 million head of swine, 116,000 head of sheep, 13.8 million poultry, and a domestic industry consisting of approximately 160,000 horses, elk, bison and others within the State of Nebraska that are vulnerable and potential targets of CAD, either by natural infectious process or biological terrorist attack. Nebraska also has a free-ranging animal population in excess of 300,000 deer, 5,000 pronghorn antelope, 300 elk and 120 bighorn sheep, that are also potential targets of CAD.

B. Nebraska animal industries are critical to the economic well being of the State's economy. Cash receipts for livestock and livestock products total $6.1 billion each year. Value-added products, such as food, add substantially to these totals. A major outbreak of CAD could negatively affect the animal industry and those businesses that depend on it. Export of livestock and livestock products would decrease. Businesses would fail. Tax revenue generated directly and indirectly would diminish dramatically. If the disease spread to other states, it could have a devastating impact on the United States' ability to compete in the global marketplace.

C. A major outbreak of CAD could create environmental and public health hazards to human population including exposure to hazardous materials and contaminated water supplies, crops, livestock, and food products. There could also be a significant mental health impact.

D. Response to CAD may involve local, state, federal and other entities. No single local or state agency has full authority and expertise to act unilaterally, nor do they have the resources necessary to deal with a large-scale situation.

E. If an effective response is beyond the local government's capability, state assistance may be required. The Governor may then proclaim a "State of Emergency" and the provisions of the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP), including this Annex will be implemented. In implementing this Plan, activation of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) may be necessary.

F. If the situation is beyond local and state capability, the Governor may ask for Federal assistance by requesting a Declaration of Emergency from the United States Secretary of Agriculture or a Presidential Declaration of an "emergency" or "major disaster".

G. A "Presidential Declaration" authorizes federal assistance under PL 93-288, as amended by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, PL 100-707. The declaration triggers the implementation of Federal disaster assistance programs, which are coordinated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

H. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) will provide guidance to local officials applying for State and/or Federal assistance.

III. ASSUMPTIONS

A. The identification of CAD within the United States would affect the State of Nebraska. This could result in the creation and enforcement of movement controls of people, livestock, products and other property.

B. Positive detection of such a disease elsewhere will prompt state officials to employ additional precautions to prevent or mitigate the possibility of an occurrence locally.

C. There is a potential for the farming community, as well as local and state officials, to receive a threat of a disease as a mechanism of terrorism. They may also witness or be a victim of an event. If an incident were confirmed as being a terroristic event, the Terrorism/WMD Annex of the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) would be utilized in conjunction with this Appendix.

D. Numerous local, state and federal agencies will play a role in eradicating the disease. Operations regarding remediation and recovery have the potential to involve a massive amount of resources, due to the sheer volume potential.

E. Several to numerous associations may play a role. These associations, and their local and national counterparts, have the ability to communicate rapidly with individual members, providing two-way communication regarding pre-planning through emergency response and recovery.

F. Large quantities of domestic livestock and wildlife may need to be destroyed or controlled to prevent the spread of CAD after it has been confirmed within the State.

G. Vector control may be necessary. Vector-borne diseases can spread very quickly, necessitating quick response over a potentially wide area.

H. Immediate quarantine areas may be required where suspect or confirmed cases may have originated, and may require special operational procedures.

I. Eradication of the causative agent will require proper sanitary and disposal procedures for animal carcasses. Suspect infected locations and transport vehicles may need to be cleaned and disinfected. Bio-security guidelines may need to be established and implemented.

J. Environmental protection regulations or procedures may need to be temporarily suspended to allow timely and efficient disposal of euthanized livestock and wildlife.

K. There are several scenarios under which livestock related incidents could affect the State of Nebraska. This could result in the creation and enforcement of movement controls of people, livestock, livestock concentration points, products, and other property. Possible major scenarios could include:

1. Small to large traditional livestock operations.

2. Auction Markets.

3. Small and major livestock slaughter operations.

4. Private and commercial feedlots.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. In the planning stage for Emergency Support Function 11 (ESF-11), it is recognized that under some agriculture disaster scenarios, especially those encompassing multiple (hundreds of) sites, the need for resources is tremendous.

B. Before, during, and immediately following a Governor's emergency proclamation, ESF-11 will be followed when requests for agricultural related assistance are made. When ESF-11 is activated, NDA, the ESF-11 Coordinator Agency, will provide a representative to serve as the NEMA designated ESF Coordinator (ESFC).

C. Federal agencies may provide support during emergency events. The United States Department of Agriculture has the power, in certain circumstances, to declare an emergency. In these cases USDA/VS representatives in Nebraska work with NDA.

D. Upon State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) request, the ESFC will be available to respond to requests submitted through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA.) The ESFC will assist in identifying which departments/agencies/associations are needed, and will take steps to insure that the departments/agencies/associations are activated or on alert as appropriate.

E. The level of response to an event depends on the extent and severity of that event. While a natural disaster might bring about a short-lived, local response, the introduction of a major contamination or highly contagious disease could require an ongoing response from multiple sectors in multiple jurisdictions.

V. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA).

1. NDA is the Coordinator Agency for ESF-11. In the planning stages for ESF-11, NDA will do the following:

   a. Develop and maintain a listing of principle contacts for all agencies, Livestock Emergency Disease Response System (LEDRS), and association assets available to support a response and/or recovery mission. Volunteer and local agencies may be requested to contribute assets to the response effort.

   b. Position resources in advance, or when it becomes apparent that resources will be required.

   c. Develop a preparation/response/recovery plan which includes the logistical requirements necessary to obtain needed resources.

   d. Prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.

   e. Coordinate with support departments/agencies/associations to prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.

2. When ESF-11 is activated, the following operational requests may be made of the ESFC and/or other NDA personnel. The extent of the response will vary depending on the scope of the disaster or emergency incident and the resources that are available with which to respond. Generally, NDA will do the following:

   a. The NDA Chief Administrator, or designated alternate, will serve as the Emergency Support Function Coordinator (ESFC) at the NEMA Emergency Operation Center (EOC).

   b. Provide overall leadership, coordination, assessment and technical assistance in response to highly contagious animal diseases.

   c. Provide support departments/agencies/associations with current information concerning locations of outbreaks, extent of involvement, and available diagnostic information.

   d. The ESFC will identify which participating departments, agencies, and/or associations are needed, and take steps to ensure that they are activated or on alert, as appropriate.

e. Designate regulatory persons or Livestock Emergency Disease Response System (LEDRS) veterinarians to collect samples, and forward to appropriate laboratory.

f. Provide communication through the NDA Public Information Officer (PIO), including information that may be coming through federal counterparts. Also, the PIO will be the primary contact with other states, through the "Emergency Communications Plan" developed by the Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture (COSDA). The purpose of this communications plan is to share critical information with all participating states in a timely manner in order to better manage the public message in an emergency situation that is regional or national in scope. A copy of this plan is found as Attachment 1 of ESF-11.

g. Establish communications with appropriate field personnel and ensure that they are ready to respond in a timely manner.

h. Provide information on local agricultural conditions, resources, and producers.

i. Accumulate contamination/disease information obtained from assessment teams, the telecommunications industry, the local emergency operations center, and other local, state, and federal agencies.

j. Prepare and process reports using established procedures, focusing specific attention to the production of after-action reports.

k. Continually reassess priorities to address the most critical needs.

l. Track resources which are committed to specific missions.

m. Re-deploy and re-stage resources as appropriate.

n. Coordinate movement of any resource that may be needed in order to mitigate an event, and in recovery, from the potential disaster area to the nearest staging area, including evacuation and re-entry of a designated area.

3. NDA, through the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), has broad authority over diseased livestock. In the event of CAD, the NDA Director will initiate the LEDRS response network, which will coordinate with NEMA after the Governor has issued a proclamation of a State of Emergency. NDA will administer and command emergency procedures in regard to quarantining, euthanasia and disposal of animals as required. In addition, NDA will continue active case finding. NDA will:

a. Notify appropriate contacts necessary to support a response.

b. Provide NEMA with hourly and daily updated information regarding the CAD outbreak.

c. Distribute scientific, procedural and diagnostic information to veterinarians practicing in Nebraska.

d. Provide diagnostic and laboratory support.

e. Provide information on local agricultural conditions, resources, and producers.

f. Provide advice regarding the limits of infected areas.

g. Evaluate the risk factors of wildlife with Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) and NEMA in the dissemination or persistence of infection.

h. Coordinate efforts of LEDRS, as well as any veterinary medical assistance teams.

B. Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary containment practices and procedures for carcass disposal and decontamination advice/planning.

2. Provide on-site assistance regarding environmental issues stemming from disposal and/or decontamination activities.

3. Provide technical assistance on waste treatment and disposal.

4. Approve waste disposal and/or treatment sites.

5. Provide technical advice on locations for cleaning and disinfecting stations.

6. Provide technical assistance on environmental regulations and requirements.

7. Provide information on locations of known livestock feeding operations.

C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary mapping information, to include specific information on topography and water tables.

2. Provide on-site mapping assistance.

D. Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR).

1. Provide guidance for re-routing of traffic in and around the affected area.

2. Identify traffic control issues and/or needs.

3. Assist with the transport of soil, carcasses, or debris.

4. Identify potential sources of outside assistance (i.e., contractors, equipment sources, etc.)

E. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

1. Activate and operate the SEOC; provide liaisons to affected jurisdictions; prepare situation reports for the Governor and receive and act on requests for assistance from county emergency managers/directors; coordinate the State's response with local governments, coordinate with FEMA and the Federal Response Plan; and, assist in the coordination of disaster related public information.

2. Provide equipment and supplies, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) necessary to facilitate movement/destruction/disposal of huge numbers of large animals. Attachment 1 to this Appendix contains information on the type of equipment which may be needed for this process.

3. Provide communications to responders, especially in remote areas of the state.

4. Provide decontamination equipment and supplies (including PPE), and chemicals necessary to decontaminate individuals and equipment, taking necessary environmental precautions.

F. Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC).

1. Provide containment and/or quarantine assistance to help prevent the spread of highly contagious animal diseases to and through non-domesticated animals.

2. Provide, if necessary, sites for disposal of huge numbers of large animals.

3. Provide assistance with vector control, and location of cleaning and disinfecting stations.

4. Conduct surveillance on susceptible wild animal species, as required.

5. Reduce infected wildlife populations, as required.

6. Provide temporary accommodations and emergency feeding for field operation teams.

7. Provide general security, law enforcement and traffic control as required.

8. Provide heavy equipment for disposal operations.

9. Assist with the transportation of soil, carcasses, or debris.

G. Nebraska Health and Human Services System (HHSS).

1. Provide overall leadership, coordination, assessment, and technical assistance for public health needs in the event of a disaster or emergency, including mass care and quarantine needs.

2. Provide assistance and epidemiology services in dealing with zoonotic diseases.

3. Determine the potability of water supplies and identify other drinking water sources.

4. Provide mental health support to survivors, emergency responders, those that suffer significant property loss, and the public in general to prevent or minimize stress, grief, and depression that occur following natural or manmade disasters.

5. Providing supplemental assistance to local entities in identifying and meeting the health needs of victims of a major emergency or disaster. This support is categorized in the following areas:

   a. Assessment of medical needs.

   b. Medical care personnel.

   c. Medical equipment and supplies.

   d. Patient evacuation.

   e. Coordinate in-hospital care.

   f. Drug safety.

   g. Coordinate statewide Emergency Medical Response.

h. Public health information release.

i. Victim identification/mortuary services.

j. Medical Command and Control.

6. Identify additional medical personnel, facilities, equipment, and supplies that can be accessed and coordinate their deployment.

7. Utilize locally available medical resources to the extent possible to meet the needs identified by local authorities.

H. Nebraska Military Department (MIL).

1. Provide containment and/or quarantine assistance to prevent the spread of highly contagious animal diseases.

2. Provide incident security and traffic control, including management of approved entry to a site.

3. Provide transportation for responders to and within sites.

4. Provide protection to responders.

5. Provide heavy equipment for use in disposal procedures.

6. Provide assistance in the reduction of infected non-human populations.

7. Provide assistance in housing and feeding response personnel.

I. Nebraska State Fire Marshal (SFM).

Provide “Incident Management” training to local responders, including specialized training for handling animal incidents, including those where there are decontamination concerns.

J. Nebraska State Patrol (NSP).

1. Provide incident security, including management of approved entry to a site, law enforcement, and traffic control, as needed.

2. Provide containment (controlling access and movement) and/or quarantine assistance to prevent the spread of highly contagious animal diseases.

3. Provide protection to responders.

4. Provide communication resources.

5. Coordinate local law enforcement response, as required.

K. University of Nebraska System (UNS).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages.

2. Provide surveillance assistance in prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory services for animal, plant, and food related analytical needs.

4. Provide resources (such as the UNL Department of Veterinary and Bio Medical Science) to assist in diagnosis of animal disease.

5. Provide and distribute information regarding CAD.

L. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) may:

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages.

2. Provide technical resources during prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory assistance.

4. Provide “Emergency Declaration” where necessary.

5. Provide indemnification, to include the cost of animals, and costs associated with an incident.

6. Direct all eradication activities including quarantine, evaluation, slaughter, disposal, cleaning and disinfecting, epidemiology, trace back, vector control and transportation permit systems.

7. Collect, collate, analyze and disseminate technical and logistical information.

8. Define training requirements for casual employees or support agencies involved in eradication operations.

9. Issue declaration of the disease and define the infected area and control zones.

10. Prepare information for dissemination to the public, media, producers, processors and transportation industry.

11. Allocate funding for compensation to the owner of destroyed animals.

12. Restrict payment of compensation in cases of violation.

13. Consult with state and local authorities regarding eradication operations.

M. United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages for food contamination issues.

2. Provide technical assistance during prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory assistance.

N. Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD).

Coordinate provision of food and temporary shelter on-site, especially when an area is quarantined.

O. Livestock Concentration Points.

Livestock concentration points include small to large traditional livestock operations, auction markets, small and major livestock slaughter operations, and private and commercial feedlots.

Provide biosecurity contingency plans dealing with livestock related emergency operations issues.

P. Associations.

Industry associations, and their national and local components, are an invaluable resource for emergency prevention, preparation, response, and recovery. Responsibilities under ESF-11 include:

1. Maintain lists of members, and other significant stakeholders, including lists of potential resources (i.e., transportation equipment; pre-positioning).

2. Provide guidance and advice on site/plant security, potential response activity, and other appropriate information to members, based on industry and NDA recommendations.

3. Provide information to NDA regarding technological advances in the industry which may impact on handling emergencies.

4. Provide information to NDA regarding activities which might affect emergency response, including information about specific sites.

Q. Lead Federal Agency (LFA) may:

1. Implement the Federal Response Plan, which provides a mechanism for organizing, coordinating, and mobilizing federal resources to augment state and local resources.

2. Under the Federal Response Plan, FEMA may employ Emergency Support Function #11 (ESF #11) for coordinating food response and recovery activities. The lead agency for ESF #11 is the USDA, with other agencies as support agencies based on their resources to support a functional area.

R. Local Agencies.

Local officials will be actively involved in the response, and should be utilized. Each county and local government has a Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP), which provides the framework for the jurisdiction's response to an emergency or disaster. County and local emergency managers/directors may utilize their resources and provide additional lines of communication with and for local farmers and the local cooperative extension.

VI. TRAINING/EXERCISES

All agencies with responsibilities listed in this Appendix will provide annual training in regards to livestock. An orientation and/or tabletop exercise should be conducted annually to ensure adequate response to a threatened or actual outbreak of disease of non-human population as a result of a non-medical disaster. The objectives for these exercises should be based on the policies and procedures identified in this plan.

VII. AUTHORITY

A. Federal Government.

Legal authority for the United State Department of Agriculture for response procedures as identified in this Annex may be found in USC Title 21, Section 134(a).

B. State Government (NEMA and NDA).

1. Legal authority for the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's response procedures as identified in this Appendix may be found in the Emergency Management Act of 1996, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-829.36 to 81-829.75 (Reissue 1996 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

2. Legal authority for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture's response procedures as identified in this Appendix may be found in the following

statutes: Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-201 (Reissue 1996), Neb. Rev. Stat. §54-701 (Reissue 1998 and Cum Supp. 2002), and Neb. Rev. Stat. §§54-1180 to 54-1182 (Reissue 1998 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

3. The Governor maintains the authority to meet the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters and emergencies. In the event of disaster or emergency, beyond local control, the Governor may assume direct operational control over all or any part of the emergency management functions within the State.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION

A. The Governor and key state officials are provided the capability to direct and control response and recovery operations from a centralized facility in the event of an emergency/disaster. State departments/agencies conduct their day-to-day operations from facilities that are widely dispersed throughout the state. Therefore, when an emergency/disaster occurs, centralized direction and control is required to facilitate coordinated responses by the Governor and key departmental/agency staff, emergency management staff and representatives of private sector organizations assigned emergency responsibilities.

B. As NEMA Director, the Adjutant General is required to provide direction and control capability for operational response and recovery activities in time of an emergency or disaster. This is accomplished by maintaining the SEOC located in an underground facility at 1300 Military Road in Lincoln. An alternate SEOC has been operationally readied in Grand Island (100 E. 1st Street) should the SEOC become inoperable.

C. The NEMA Assistant Director, through the NEMA Operations Officer, maintains the Operations Management System (OMS) which utilizes the principles of the Incident Command System (ICS).

D. NEMA will coordinate response activities in support of Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) and will be aware of response operations at the local level.

E. NEMA will coordinate with the Lead Federal Agency, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and other federal agencies as needed, and may utilize local/regional Emergency Operation Centers (EOC's) to facilitate response activities.

F. The Governor can issue a State of Emergency proclamation. Upon the issuance of a State of Emergency proclamation, the Governor may direct any and all agencies of state government to provide assistance under the coordination of NEMA.

G. Activation of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) will occur under any of the following conditions:

1. When any CAD LEVEL has been identified. (The activation status of the SEOC will be decided by the NEMA Assistant Director in relation to the severity of the CAD LEVEL).

2. The NEMA Assistant Director's direction.

3. The Adjutant General's direction.

4. The governor's proclamation of a State of Emergency.

H. SEOC activation status is determined by the NEMA Assistant Director as follows:

1. NORMAL (Green light): NORMAL STATUS indicates that SEOC personnel are engaged in regular day-to-day activities, including duty officer activities. The NEMA Assistant Director may direct that limited Planning/Intelligence be accomplished during NORMAL STATUS but the Operations Manager is not expected to implement OMS functional duties.

2. ALERT (Yellow light): ALERT STATUS indicates that events have occurred or are in progress that may increase the threat to safety of life and property. OMS positions of Incident Manager, Operations Manager, General Staff, and Communications may be implemented on a limited-hour basis. Duty Officer status may be modified if SEOC is open during night hours.

3. OPERATIONAL (Red light): OPERATIONAL STATUS indicates that events have occurred or are in progress which have caused or will cause loss of life and/or damage to property. All necessary OMS functions may be implemented on a 24-hour per day basis. Duty Officer activities are modified while SEOC is at OPERATIONAL STATUS.

I. When the SEOC is activated at OPERATIONAL STATUS for CAD emergency, a **Unified Command** between the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) and NEMA will be established.

J. CAD Incident Severity Levels - A reported CAD incident will be classified according to one of three CAD Incident Severity Levels. Each CAD level is utilized to:

1. Determine the extent of initial state agency response;

2. Determine SEOC activation level; and

3. Determine the NEMA OMS structure necessary to respond to local needs.

4. The levels are as follows:

   a. LEVEL 1. When CAD is confirmed in Canada, Mexico or in a single state in the U.S., but not in Nebraska nor in an adjacent state.

   b. LEVEL 2. When CAD is confirmed in an adjacent state, or in multiple states in the U.S., but not in Nebraska.

   c. LEVEL 3. When CAD is presumptive, suspected, or confirmed in Nebraska. LEVEL 3 contains three parts:

      1) Investigation

      2) Suspicion

      3) Confirmed

K. Initial report to NDA of a possible CAD within the state may come from the local farm communities, veterinary professional or other persons knowledgeable regarding animal diseases.

L. When an approved diagnostic laboratory confirms a positive test, the USDA shall notify NDA.

M. NDA will notify NEMA and initiate CAD LEVEL 3, Confirmed. NEMA in turn will notify other appropriate agencies.

IX. SEOC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

A. The SEOC will be staffed to provide for organized management of a multi-agency response to CAD Incident including the functions of Command, Response, Planning, Logistics and Finance. Such staffing will be according to the NEMA OMS.

B. NEMA will:

1. Activate the SEOC.

2. Serve as Unified Incident Commander at SEOC.

3. Advise the Governor on State of Emergency proclamation.

4. Evaluate the need for requesting a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

C. Command - The Unified Command for CAD Incident will:

1. Assess the situation.

2. Implement the SEOP.

3. Determine incident objectives and strategy.

4. Establish immediate priorities.

5. Approve and authorize the implementation of an Incident Action Plan that will include the objectives of:

   a. Prevention/mitigation activities to stop the spread of CAD once it is identified as present in Nebraska. Actions may include, but are not limited to, quarantines, movement control restrictions, contact tracing, and vaccination;

   b. Eradication of CAD in Nebraska by taking immediate actions. Actions may include, but are not limited to, depopulation of infected and exposed animals and/or herds and carcass disposal; and

   c. Identify and implement all appropriate federal and state recovery programs, support mechanisms, and technical services that directly assist individuals, families, businesses (including farms) and state and local governments with the process of recovering from the effects of CAD outbreak.

6. Coordinate with key officials.

7. Authorize release of information to the news media.

8. Order the demobilization of the incident when appropriate.

D. Response - The Response Section in the SEOC will be appropriately staffed to provide support necessary for:

1. Establish necessary local liaison capability.

2. Ensure coordination of all Emergency Support Functions (ESF) assigned to the SEOC.

3. Task response missions to the appropriate ESF Coordinators for action.

4. Ensure that the response objectives identified in the Incident Action Plan are carried out effectively.

5. Ensure field communications capability.

6. Ensure that the state agency actions (missions) are accomplished within the priorities established.

E. Planning and Logistics - The Planning/Intelligence/Logistics Section in the SEOC will be appropriately staffed to provide support necessary to:

1. Facilitate the preparation of an Incident Action Plan.

2. Distribute the Incident Action Plan(s).

3. Collect, analyze and display situation information.

4. Prepare periodic Situation Reports.

5. Determine the status of eradication efforts, and the effectiveness of the operation.

6. Identify all incident related sites, including eradication sites, cleaning and disinfecting stations and isolation zones.

7. Document and maintain files of all SEOC activities.

8. Provide resource tracking.

9. Acquire equipment, supplies, transportation, lodging and other support services as required.

10. Ensure computer resources and services are provided to SEOC staff as required.

11. Prepare Purchase Orders.

12. Identify and track resources, and identify any specialized equipment needed.

F. Finance - The Finance Section will be appropriately staffed to provide support necessary to:

1. Coordinate the authorizations for emergency purchases.

2. Contract with supply vendors.

3. Coordinate with local, state and federal departments/agencies/associations for compensation and processing of claims related to CAD incidents.

4. Provide financial and cost analysis information as requested.

5. Ensure that all personnel time records are accurately completed and submitted.

6. Provide financial input for demobilization planning.

7. Process travel and expense claims.

NEBRASKA VETT
(Veterinary Emergency Team Trailer)

Component of Veterinary Emergency Team System (VETS)
Animal Disease Emergency Preparedness
Equipment and Supplies for a Team of Ten

Inventory

TENT 1 - OPERATIONS CENTER AND OFFICE

Designed to be the point of coordination for all activities

Documentation & Planning
- Table - 1
- Chairs - 6
- Maps of State
- Epizootiology form - 50
- Indemnity form - 50
- Job Assignment card - 100
- Quarantine form - 50
- ID Badge - 50
- Phone List of contacts
  - State and county level emergency response coordinators
  - State potrol and Sheriff offices
  - State Veterinarian phone numbers - all states
  - APHIS, EP, etc.
- Publications
  - Binder of Nebraska (State Laws) and Nebraska (State Regulations
  - Animal Welfare Code Publication
  - AVMA Euthanasia Guide publication

Supplies
- Computer with printer
- Computer paper
- Clipboard - 10
- Plastic file boxes
- White dry-erase board - 1
- Dry-erase marker, multi-color sets - 2
- Easel and newsprint pad - 1 ea
- 8 ½” x 11" lined notepads - 10

Office stapler and staples
Paper clips
Scotch tape
Scissors
Highlighters
Felt markers
Pens & Pencils

TENT 2 - CLOTHING AND PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Designed to be the point of interface between the contaminated work area and non-contaminated outside area. Personnel will change into disinfectable or disposable clothing at this point. This is the biosecurity lock.

Clothing
Plastic container, 15 gallon – 10 (for civilian clothing storage)
Yellow Rainsuits (XL) – 5
Green Rainsuits (L) – 5
Rain Poncho – 10
Splash suits – 6
Disposable coveralls – 150
Galoshes – 20
Plastic shoe covers – 200

Head and Face Protection
Orange hard hat – 1 (supervisor)
White bump hats – 7
Goggles – 6
Faceshield (headsets) - 4
Faceshield (replacement lenses) – 6
Surgical style headcovering, disposable – 100
Safety Glasses – 6

Breathing and Hearing Protection
Respirators – 6
Respirator Cartridges – 8 sets
Heavy Earmuffs – 2
Light Earmuffs – 2
Earplugs – 200

Hands
Large Rubber Gloves – 72 pair
Large Glove Liners – 50 pair
Latex gloves – 200

Personnel Disinfection

Footbath container – 4
Bucket, plastic – 10
Boot brush – 4
Scrub brush – 2
Handwashing basin – 3
Fingernail brush – 4
Disinfectant chemical, Virkon S powder – 5 lb.
Hand Lotion, bottle – 6
Portable shower – 1
Fingernail clipper – 2
Eyeglasses dipping container – 1

Disposal Equipment – (for disposable clothing)
30 gallon trash container
30 gallon plastic trash bags - 50

TENT 3 – PERSONNEL – Rest and Recuperation R&R)

Designed for provision of feed, water, and rest

Food, Safety, Rest
Table – 1
Chairs – 4
First Aid Kit – 1
Propane stove – 1
Coffee percolator – 1
Instant coffee
Coffeemate
Sugar, Sweet 'n Low, Equal
Hot Chocolate
Paper cups – 200
Plastic flatware (eating utensils) -100 sets
Paper plates – 100
Cooking equipment, set – 1
Ice chest, 30 gallon – 1
Drinking water collar, 3 gallon – 1
MRE's – 48
Sleeping bags – 4

Sanitation, Waste Disposal
Paper towels – 12 rolls
Cloth towels – 12
Portable toilet – 1
Toilet paper – 12 rolls
Plastic garbage bags (30 gallon) – 50
Plastic garbage container (30 gallon) -1
Hand soap - 10
Handwashing basin -1

GENERAL EQUIPMENT

Sample Collection and Diagnostic Equipment
- Foreign Animal Disease diagnostic kit (with each FADD)
- Vacutainer tubes – red, green, & purple – 50 each
- Whirl-paks – 100

Quarantine & Movement Control
- USDA seal – 100
- Quarantine signs – 50
- Tape, Hazardous Material, 100 ft. -1 roll
- Tape, Caution, 100 ft. – 1 roll
- Chain, 2' length – 4
- Padlocks, keyed alike – 4
- Fiberglass post – 20
- Traffic control cones – 12
- Sawhorses, black & orange plastic – 2

Animal Handling
- Hog snare – 2
- Hotshot – 2
- Branding iron, electric, 2
- Portable side-opening squeeze chute – (on independent carriage trailer)
- Portable corral – 26 panels (12ft.) on double axle trailer

Euthanasia Equipment (store in separate secure location)
- Captive bolt stun-gun & cartridges – 2
- Rifle and ammunition – 1
- Euthanasia solution
- Syringes & needles – 50

Carcass Handling/Perforation Equipment
- Knife, boning – 2
- Hooks, hand – 2
- Knife holster with chains and clips – 2
- Sharpening steel – 2
- Sharpening stone, carborundum – 1

Hand Tools & Miscellaneous Equipment
- Staple gun & 3/8" staples
- Hammer – 1
- Assorted nails
- Wire, roll – 1
- Short Handsaw – 1
- Duct tape, roll-6
- Extension cord, 100 ft. – 2
- Screwdriver set – 1

Pliar – 1 grips, 1 longnose, 1 fencing
Plastic Zip-Ties – large container of several hundred
Rope – 2 hanks X 100 ft.

Lights (for night work, if necessary)
Propane lantern – 1
Propane fuel cylinders – 6
Head lamps – 8
Batteries, AA – 24
Floodlight/worklight, on tripod – 2
Flashlights – 2
Batteries – 12

Premises Disinfection
Backpack sprayer -2
Shovel – 2
Scraper – 4
Lime, bag – 10
Disinfectant chemicals
Environ D, gallon – 3
VirkonS – 5 lb.
Garden Hose

EQUIPMENT TO BE PROCURRED ON-SITE AS NECESSARY

From county government units or rental businesses
Electric generator
Power pressure washer
Bulldozer, backhoe, grader, trucks, or other heavy equipment
Livestock hauling vehicles
Curtain burner

Other Equipment in the VETTS System
Trailer for VETT Equipment – 5Ft. x 8 ft. enclosed trailer, single axle – 1 unit
Squeeze Chute, portable – Priefert Side-Opening with trailer carriage – 1unit
Corral Panels – Priefert 12 ft, chain connecting, heavy duty – 26 units
Alley Frames for Lead-in Panels to Squeeze Chute – 7 units
No-Back Alley Stops – 1 unit
Trailer for Corral Panels, 6 ft X 12 ft. flatbed double axle – 1 unit

Highly Contagious Animal Disease (CAD) Specific Response Plan

INITIAL RESPONSE ACTIONS

I. CAD LEVEL 1

Confirmed in Canada, Mexico, or in a single state in the U.S., but not in Nebraska, nor an adjacent state.

A. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA):

1. Notifies all Federal Area Veterinarians in Charge (AVIC) and State Veterinarians.

2. Activates Regional Emergency Animal Disease Eradication Organization (READEO) in affected State.

3. Secretary of Agriculture may declare an emergency or extraordinary emergency.

4. Evaluates the need for requesting a Presidential Declaration of Emergency.

B. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA):

1. Notifies the Governor through the Director of Agriculture.

2. Notifies NEMA, who activates ESF-11, Appendix 1, Livestock Disease.

3. Issues emergency order to stop movement of affected species into Nebraska from affected state(s). Certain movements may be allowed by pre-entry permits.

4. Alerts the Nebraska Livestock Emergency Diseases Response System (LEDRS).

5. Serves as Unified Incident Commander at SEOC (Director or designee may serve as needed).

C. Governor:

1. Contacts Governor of affected state.

2. Determines if State of Emergency proclamation should be issued.

3. Activates SEOC if emergency is proclaimed.

4. Considers assigning existing state resources to assist NDA in restricting imports/exports if State of Emergency is not proclaimed.

D. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA):

1. Opens SEOC.

2. Serves as Unified Incident Commander at SEOC.

3. Advises the Governor on State of Emergency proclamation.

4. Evaluates the need for requesting a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

II. CAD LEVEL 2

Confirmed in an adjacent state, or multiple states, but not in Nebraska.

A. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA):

1. Notifies all Federal AVICs and State Veterinarians.

2. Activates READEO in affected state(s).

3. Secretary of Agriculture declares an Emergency or Extraordinary Emergency.

4. Evaluates the need for requesting a Presidential Declaration of Emergency.

B. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA):

1. Notifies the Governor through the Director of Agriculture.

2. Notifies NEMA, who activates ESF-11, Appendix 1, Livestock Disease.

3. Issues emergency order to stop movement of affected species into Nebraska from affected state(s). Certain movements may be allowed by pre-entry permits.

4. Activates LEDRS.

5. Serves as Unified Incident Commander at SEOC (Director or designee may serve as needed).

C. Governor:

1. Contacts Governors of affected state(s).

2. Determines if a State of Emergency proclamation should be issued.

3. Activates SEOC if emergency is proclaimed.

4. Considers assigning existing state resources to assist NDA in restricting imports/exports if a State of Emergency is not proclaimed.

D. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA):

1. Activates SEOC.

2. Serves as Unified Incident Commander at SEOC.

3. Advises the Governor on State of Emergency proclamation.

4. Evaluates the need for requesting a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

III. CAD LEVEL 3

Investigation **(request for FADD)**

A. AVIC or State Veterinarian:

1. Receives call requesting investigation.

2. Assigns Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician (FADD) to farm.

B. FADD:

1. Examines animals.

2. Takes history.

3. Collects tissues.

4. Submits tissues according to priority to Foreign Animal Disease Laboratory (FADL) at Plum Island, New York or to National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL), Ames, Iowa.

5. Reports to AVIC and State Veterinarian results of investigation (suspicious or not suspicious). Samples submitted Priority I or II should be reported immediately.

IV. ***Suspicious (highly likely)***

A. FADD:

1. Notifies all federal AVICs and State Veterinarian.

2. Confers with State Veterinarian to determine if a state quarantine should be issued on affected and exposed animals and affected premises.

B. State Veterinarian

1. Authorizes FADD to issue quarantine on animals and facility.

C. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA):

1. Notifies Governor through the Director of Agriculture.

2. Notifies NEMA, who activates ESF-11, Appendix 1, Livestock Disease.

3. Issues emergency order to stop movement of affected species into/out of a designated area surrounding the affected site.

4. Alerts LEDRS.

V. ***Presumptive or Confirmed***

A. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA):

1. Notifies all federal AVICs and State Veterinarians.

2. Activates READEO after invitation from State Veterinarian through the Nebraska AVIC.

3. Secretary of Agriculture declares an Emergency or an Extraordinary Emergency.

4. Evaluates the need for requesting a Presidential Declaration of Emergency.

5. AVIC serves as Unified Incident Commander along with State Veterinarian or NDA representative.

B. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA):

1. Notifies Governor through the Director of Agriculture.

2. Notifies NEMA, who activates ESF-11, Appendix 1, Livestock Disease.

3. Issues emergency order to stop movement of affected species into/out of a designated area surrounding the affected site. Certain movements may be allowed by pre-entry permits.

4. Activates LEDRS.

5. Serves as Unified Incident Commander at SEOC (Director or designee may serve as needed).

C. Governor:

1. Personally contacts Governors of Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas and others through NASDA.

2. Issues a State of Emergency Proclamation.

3. Activates SEOC and SEOP.

4. Considers assigning existing state resources to assist NDA in restricting imports/exports.

D. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA):

1. Activates SEOC.

2. Serves as Unified Incident Commander at SEOC.

3. Advises the Governor on State of Emergency proclamation.

4. Evaluates the need for requesting a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

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PLANT DISEASE AND CONTAMINATION RESPONSE PLAN

Participating Departments/Agencies/Associations

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
United States Department of Agriculture;
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS)
- Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA/APHIS/PPQ)
- Veterinary Services (USDA/APHIS/VS)

Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA)
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR)
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
Nebraska Health and Human Services System (HHSS)
Nebraska Military Department (MIL)
Nebraska State Fire Marshal (NSF)
Nebraska State Patrol (NSP)
University of Nebraska Systems (UNS)
Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)
Nebraska Agri-Business Association
Nebraska Association of Resource Districts
Nebraska Aviation Trades Association
Nebraska Coop Council
Nebraska Corn Growers Association
Nebraska Dry Bean Growers Association
Nebraska Grain and Feed Association
Nebraska Grain Sorghum Growers Association
Nebraska Lawn Care Association
Nebraska Nursery and Landscape Association
Nebraska Professional Lawn Care Association
Nebraska Seed Trade Association
Nebraska Soybean Board
Nebraska Structural Pest Control Association
Nebraska Weed Control Association
Nebraska Wheat Growers Association

I. PURPOSE

A. To provide for coordinated measures and procedures designed to detect, control and eradicate plant diseases and contamination as quickly as possible within the State of Nebraska.

B. To generate immediate, appropriate local, state and federal measures to eliminate the crisis and minimize the consequences in order to return the State of Nebraska to contagion free status.

II. SITUATION

A. There are an estimated 1.14 billion bushels of corn produced (12% of the U.S. total), 222 million bushels of soybeans, 35.7 million bushels of sorghum, and 1.79 million bushels of great northern beans produced (85% of the U.S. total). In addition, many other crops are grown within the state. These crops are all vulnerable and potential targets of disease or contamination, either through natural or accidental introduction, or through terrorist attack.

B. Nebraska agricultural industries are critical to the economic well being of the state's economy. Cash receipts for crops total approximately $3.4 billion. A major contamination or disease outbreak could negatively affect production agriculture and those businesses that depend on it. Export of agricultural products would decrease. Businesses would fail. Tax revenue generated directly and indirectly would diminish dramatically. If the disease or contamination spread to other states, it could have a devastating impact on the United States' ability to compete in the global marketplace.

C. A major contamination event or outbreak of disease could create environmental and public health hazards to the human population including exposure to hazardous materials and contaminated water supplies, crops, livestock, and food products. There could also be a significant mental health impact.

D. Response to plant related incidents may involve local, state, federal and other entities. No single local or state agency has full authority and expertise to act unilaterally, nor do they have the resources necessary to deal with a large-scale situation.

III. ASSUMPTIONS

A. The identification of incidents or activities impacting plants or crop production within the United States would affect the State of Nebraska.

B. Positive detection of a contamination, disease, or chemical security breech elsewhere will prompt state officials to employ additional precautions to prevent or mitigate the possibility of an occurrence locally.

C. There is a potential for the farming community, as well as local and state officials, to receive a threat of disease, contamination, or misuse of a chemical as a mechanism of terrorism. They may also witness or be a victim of an event. If an incident were confirmed as being a terrorist event, the Terrorism Annex of the State of Nebraska Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) would be utilized in conjunction with this Appendix.

D. Numerous local, state and federal agencies will play a role in mitigating an agricultural event. Operations regarding remediation and recovery have the potential to involve a massive amount of resources, due to the sheer volume potential.

E. Several to numerous associations may play a role. These associations, and their local and national counterparts, have the ability to communicate rapidly with individual members, providing two-way communication regarding pre-planning through emergency response and recovery.

F. Large quantities of crops, rangelands, domestic livestock and wildlife, food, milk and dairy products may need to be destroyed or controlled to prevent the spread of contamination or disease after it has been confirmed within the State.

G. Vector control may be necessary. Vector-borne diseases can spread very quickly, necessitating quick response over a potentially wide area.

H. Immediate quarantine areas may be required where suspect or confirmed cases may have originated, and may require special operational procedures.

I. Eradication of the causative agent will require proper sanitary and disposal procedures for animal carcasses, plant materials and/or food. Suspect infected locations and transport vehicles may need to be cleaned and disinfected. Bio-security guidelines may need to be established.

J. Environmental protection regulations or procedures may need to be temporarily suspended to allow timely and efficient disposal of food, plant materials, and/or euthanized livestock and wildlife.

K. Discovery of a toxic or explosive chemical security breech will require rapid response by local, state, and national law enforcement. Communication and notification of potential targets is a high priority.

L. There are several scenarios under which plant related incidents could affect the State of Nebraska. This could result in the creation and enforcement of movement controls of people, livestock, products, and other property. Possible major scenarios are:

1. Introduction of a non-indigenous plant pathogen. Non-indigenous plant pathogens are those plant diseases not currently found in our state which might be introduced to our state either intentionally or naturally. Specific pathogens of concern have been identified by USDA/APHIS.

2. Invasive Species. Invasive species are those economically damaging species that have already been found in the United States. Control programs have been established for many of these species. However, the geographic area infested with an invasive species may experience either a natural or

intentional escape in areas not presently experiencing infestation. Invasive species include indigenous plant pathogens, noxious weeds, insects, or animals.

3. Genetically Modified (GM) Crops. There are two concerns with GM crops. First, there is the potential that an individual or group would manage to create a GM crop which impacts human or animal health, or the environment. Second, the introduction of a GM crop on a non-GM crop area will potentially contaminate the non-GM crop, making it unmarketable.

4. Chemical Security. Production agriculture utilizes many inputs, including fertilizers and other farm chemicals, such as pesticides. Fertilizer and pesticide security is important due to the explosive and/or toxic nature of some of these compounds. Large amounts of ammonium-nitrate fertilizer can be found in the state, as well as large quantities of hazardous or toxic pesticides. In addition, these chemicals are manufactured, formulated, packaged, and stored at various sites throughout the state. At these sites, large quantities of concentrated product are present, increasing the concerns.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. In the planning stage for Emergency Support Function 11 (ESF-11), it is recognized that under some agriculture disaster scenarios, especially those encompassing multiple (hundreds of) sites, the need for resources is tremendous.

B. Before, during, and immediately following a Governor's emergency proclamation, ESF-11 will be followed when requests for agriculture related assistance are made. When ESF-11 is activated, NDA, the ESF-11 Coordinator Agency will provide a representative to serve as the NEMA designated ESF Coordinator (ESFC).

C. Federal agencies may provide support during emergency events. The United States Department of Agriculture has the power, in certain circumstances, to declare an emergency.

D. Upon State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) request, the ESFC will be available to respond to requests submitted through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). The ESFC will identify which participating departments/agencies/associations are needed, and take steps to ensure that the departments/agencies/associations are activated or on alert as appropriate.

E. The level of response to an event depends on the extent and severity of that event. While a natural disaster might bring about a short-lived, local response,

the introduction of a major food contamination or highly contagious plant disease could initiate a response from multiple sectors in multiple jurisdictions.

V. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA).

1. NDA is the Coordinator Agency for ESF-11. In the planning stages for ESF-11, NDA will do the following:

   a. Develop and maintain a listing of principle contacts of all departments/agencies and association assets available to support a response and/or recovery mission. Volunteer and local agencies may be requested to contribute assets to the response effort.

   b. Position resources in advance, or when it becomes apparent that resources will be required.

   c. Develop a preparation/response/recovery plan which includes the logistical requirements necessary to obtain needed equipment.

   d. Prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.

   e. Coordinate with support departments/agencies to prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.

2. When ESF-11 is activated, the following operational requests may be made of the ESFC and/or other NDA personnel. The extent of the response will vary depending on the scope of the disaster or emergency incident and the resources that are available with which to respond. Generally, NDA will do the following:

   a. The NDA Chief Administrator, or designated alternate, will serve as the Emergency Support Function Coordinator (ESFC) at the NEMA Emergency Operation Center (EOC).

   b. Provide overall leadership, coordination, assessment, and technical assistance in response to highly contagious plant diseases and crop contamination.

   c. Provide support departments/agencies/associations with current information concerning locations of outbreaks, and extent of involvement, and available diagnostic information.

d. The ESFC will identify which participating departments, agencies, and/or associations are needed, and take steps to ensure that they are activated or on alert, as appropriate.

e. Collect samples and forward to appropriate laboratory.

f. Provide communication through NDA Public Information Officer (PIO), including information that may be coming through federal counterparts. Also, the PIO will be the primary contact with other states, through the "Emergency Communications Plan" developed by the Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture (COSDA). The purpose of this communications plan is to share critical information with all participating states in a timely manner, in order to better manage the public message in an emergency situation that is regional or national in scope. A copy of this plan is found in ESF-11, Appendix 5.

g. Establish communications with appropriate field personnel and ensure that they are ready to respond in a timely manner.

h. Provide information of local agricultural conditions, resources, and producers.

i. Accumulate contamination/disease information obtained from assessment teams, the telecommunications industry, the local emergency operations center, and other local, state, and federal agencies.

j. Prepare and process reports using established procedures, focusing specific attention to the production of after-action reports.

k. Continually reassess priorities to address the most critical needs.

l. Track resources which are committed to specific missions.

m. Re-deploy and re-stage resources as appropriate.

n. Coordinate movement of any resource that may be needed in order to mitigate an event, and in recovery, from the potential disaster area to the nearest staging area, including evacuation and re-entry of a designated area.

3. NDA, through the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), has regulatory authority over crops, plants, feeds, fertilizers, pesticides, weeds, and insect control. Responses are as specified for the major scenarios described above in "Assumptions".

a. Introduction of a non-indigenous plant pathogen.

1) Contact/coordinate with USDA/APHIS. Establish command and control, and determine Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) protocol.

2) Contact NEMA or other agencies as appropriate. Other agencies may include DEQ, county/city control authorities, FDA, FBI, etc.

3) Contact and activate agency staff and resources as needed. Quarantine zones may need to be established, traffic monitored or inspected, samples collected and transported to a laboratory or laboratories.

4) Contact laboratory.

5) Work through NDA PIO and alert public as needed.

b. Invasive Species.

1) Contact/coordinate with USDA/APHIS. Establish command and control, and determine if Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) is required.

2) Contact NEMA or other agencies as appropriate. This may be on alert status rather than an activation status.

3) Determine spread rate and establish control procedures.

4) Contact laboratory as needed.

5) Work through NDA PIO and alert public as needed.

c. Genetically Modified (GM) Crops.

1) Contact/coordinate with USDA/APHIS. Establish command and control, and determine Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) protocol.

2) Immediate crop quarantine and destruction is essential in this scenario, so rapid activation of staff, and rapid establishment of a transport quarantine is essential. Rapid contact with NDA staff and other agency resources is important. Determination of scale of incident needs to happen quickly, and transportation restrictions must be made, if needed, to control spread of problem.

3) Contact with NDA PIO to establish what information is available, since misinformation is more damaging to economy than no information.

4) Contact laboratory to alert them of analytical needs.

5) Establish control zones and implement crop destruction protocol if warranted.

d. Chemical Security.

1) Concerns for security can come from local or national sources. Incidents might include actual misuse or theft of farm chemicals.

2) In a theft situation, NDA will alert state law enforcement and industry associations on details, requesting assistance in locating stolen product.

3) In a misuse scenario (use of fertilizer as an explosive; pesticides for an illegal purpose), NDA will alert appropriate local, state, and/or federal authorities as the incident requires. NDA staff and resources could be mobilized to assist in monitoring, searching, etc., but this activation would be in assistance to law enforcement, since the issue is criminal in nature. NDA staff would also serve in an advisor role on remediation or deactivation of chemicals.

B. Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary containment practices and procedures.

2. Provide on-site assistance regarding environmental issues stemming from disposal and decontamination activities.

C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary mapping information, to include specific information on topography and water tables.

2. Provide on-site mapping assistance.

D. Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR).

1. Provide guidance for re-routing of traffic in and around the affected area.

2. Identify traffic control issues and/or needs.

3. Assist with the transport of soil, carcasses, or debris.

4. Identify potential sources of outside assistance (i.e., contractors, equipment sources, etc.)

E. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

1. Activate and operate the SEOC; provide liaisons to affected jurisdictions; prepare situation reports for the Governor and receive and act on requests for assistance from county emergency managers/directors; coordinate the State's response with local governments; coordinate with FEMA and the Federal Response Plan; and, assist in the coordination of disaster related public information.

2. Provide equipment and supplies, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) necessary to facilitate movement/destruction/disposal of contaminated product.

3. Provide communications to responders, especially in remote areas of the state.

4. Provide decontamination equipment and supplies (including PPE), and chemicals necessary to decontaminate individuals and equipment, taking necessary environmental precautions.

F. Nebraska Health and Human Services System (HHSS).

1. Provide overall leadership, coordination, assessment, and technical assistance for public health needs in the event of a disaster or emergency, including mass care and quarantine needs.

2. Provide assistance and epidemiology services in dealing with zoonotic diseases.

3. Determine the potability of water supplies and identifying other drinking water sources.

4. Provide mental health support to survivors, emergency responders, those that suffer significant property loss, and the public in general to prevent or minimize stress, grief, and depression that can occur following natural or manmade disasters.

G. Nebraska Military Department (MIL).

1. Provide containment and/or quarantine assistance to prevent the spread of highly contagious diseases.

2. Provide incident security and traffic control, including management of approved entry to a site.

3. Provide transportation for responders to and within sites.

4. Provide protection to responders.

5. Provide local law enforcement response, as required.

H. Nebraska State Fire Marshal (SFM).

Provide “Incident Management” training to local responders, including specialized training for handling animal incidents, including those where there are decontamination concerns.

I. Nebraska State Patrol (NSP).

1. Provide incident security, including management of approved entry to a site, law enforcement, and traffic control, as needed.

2. Provide containment and/or quarantine assistance.

3. Provide protection to responders.

4. Provide communication resources.

J. University of Nebraska System (UNS).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages.

2. Provide surveillance assistance in prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory services for plant and crop related analytical needs.

K. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages.

2. Provide technical resources during prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory assistance.

4. Provide “Emergency Declaration” where necessary.

5. Provide the indemnification process, to include the cost of animals, and costs associated with an incident.

L. United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages for plant and crop (including animal feed) contamination issues.

2. Provide technical assistance during prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory assistance.

M. Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD).

Coordinate provision of food and temporary shelter on-site, especially when an area is quarantined.

N. Associations.

Industry associations, and their national and local components, are an invaluable resource for emergency prevention, preparation, response, and recovery. Responsibilities under ESF-11 include:

1. Maintain lists of members, and other significant stakeholders, including lists of potential resources (i.e., transportation equipment; pre-positioning).

2. Provide guidance and advice on site/plant security, potential response activity, and other appropriate information to members, based on industry and NDA recommendations.

3. Provide information to NDA regarding technological advances in the industry which may have an impact on handling emergencies.

4. Provide information to NDA regarding activities which might affect emergency response, including information about specific sites.

VI. TRAINING/EXERCISES

All agencies with responsibilities listed in this Appendix should provide annual training. An orientation and/or tabletop exercise should be conducted annually to ensure adequate response to a threatened or actual outbreak of disease of non-human population as a result of a non-medical disaster. The objectives for these exercises should be based on the policies and procedures identified in this plan.

VII. AUTHORITY

A. Federal Government.

1. Legal authority for the United States Department of Agriculture for response procedures for plant events, as identified in this Appendix, may be found in The Plant Protection Act, USC Title 7, sections 7701-7772.

2. Legal authority for the United States Health and Human Services Agency, Food and Drug Administration (USFDA), is found in the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, Title 21 CFR, parts 500-599.

B. State Government (NEMA and NDA).

1. Legal authority for the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's response procedures as identified in this Appendix may be found in the Emergency Management Act of 1996, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-829.36 to 81-829.75, (Reissue 1996 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

2. Legal authority for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture's response procedures for plant activities as identified in this Appendix may be found in the following Acts: the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§2-1072 to 2-10,117; and, the Commercial Feed Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§54-847 to 54-863. (Reissue 1998).

FOOD CONTAMINATION RESPONSE PLAN

Participating Departments/Agencies/Associations

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
United States Department of Agriculture
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS)
- Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA/APHIS/PPQ)
- Veterinary Services (USDA/APHIS/VS)

Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA)
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR)
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
Nebraska Health and Human Services (HHSS)
Nebraska Military Department (MIL)
Nebraska State Fire Marshal (SFM)
Nebraska State Patrol (NSP)
University of Nebraska System (UNS)
Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)
Nebraska Agri-Business Association
Nebraska Dairymen's Association
Nebraska Food Industry Association
Nebraska Grocery Industry Association
Nebraska Restaurant Association

I. PURPOSE

A. To provide for coordinated measures and procedures designed to detect and control food contamination incidents as quickly as possible within the State of Nebraska.

B. To generate immediate, appropriate local, state, and federal measures to eliminate the crisis and minimize the consequences in order to return the State of Nebraska to contamination free status.

II. SITUATION

A. Nebraska agricultural industries provide much of the food consumed by the state's residents. There are approximately 5,000 restaurants, 600 retail groceries, 200 food processors, 150 bakeries, 160 warehouses, 1,400 convenience stores, and over 500 bars without restaurants in Nebraska. A major contamination or outbreak of disease could negatively affect the food supply for inhabitants.

B. Nebraska agricultural industries are also critical to the economic well being of the state's economy. A major contamination or outbreak of disease could negatively affect the industries and those businesses that depend on it. Export of food and other agricultural products would decrease. Businesses would fail. Tax revenue generated directly and indirectly would diminish dramatically. If the disease spread to other states, it could have a devastating impact on the United State's ability to compete in the global marketplace.

C. A major contamination event or outbreak of disease could create environmental and public health hazards to the human population including exposure to hazardous materials and contaminated water supplies, crops, livestock, and food products. There could also be a significant mental health impact.

D. Response to food related incidents may involve local, state, federal and private agencies. No single local or state agency has full authority and expertise to act unilaterally, nor do they have the resources necessary to deal with a large-scale situation.

III. ASSUMPTIONS

A. The identification of food contamination or plant or animal diseases within the United States would affect the State of Nebraska.

B. Positive detection of such a contamination or disease elsewhere will prompt State officials to employ additional precautions to prevent or mitigate the possibility of an occurrence locally.

C. There is a potential for the farming community, as well as local and State Officials, to receive a threat of contamination or disease as a mechanism of terrorism. They may also witness or be a victim of an event. If an incident were confirmed as being a terrorist event, the Terrorism Annex of the State of Nebraska Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) would be utilized in conjunction with this Appendix.

D. Numerous local, state, and federal agencies will play a role in mitigating an agricultural event. Operations regarding remediation and recovery have the potential to involve a massive amount of resources, due to the sheer volume potential.

E. Several to numerous associations may play a role. These associations, and their local and national counterparts, have the ability to communicate rapidly with individual members, providing two-way communication regarding preplanning through emergency response and recovery.

F. Large quantities of food, milk, and dairy products may need to be destroyed or controlled to prevent the spread of contamination or disease after it has been confirmed within the State.

G. Vector control may be necessary. Vector-borne diseases can spread very quickly, necessitating quick response over a potentially wide area.

H. Immediate quarantine areas may be required where suspect or confirmed cases may have originated, and may require special operational procedures.

I. Eradication of the causative agent will require proper sanitary and disposal procedures for animal carcasses, plant materials and/or food. Suspect infected locations and transport vehicles may need to be cleaned and disinfected. Biosecurity guidelines may need to be established and implemented.

J. Environmental protection regulations or procedures may need to be temporarily suspended to allow timely and efficient disposal of food, plant materials and/or euthanized livestock and wildlife.

K. There are several scenarios under which food related incidents could affect the State of Nebraska. This could result in the creation and enforcement of movement controls of people, livestock, products, and other property. Possible major scenarios are:

1. Contamination of the food supply at the grower level. There are many pathways for a food to become contaminated at a grower's site. This could be through natural causes, such as a fungal contamination of orchard apples, or through introduction of a chemical or pathogen. Spraying a pesticide on apples, if not removed, is an example. Contamination could come either by accidental introduction or by a willful or terrorist event.

2. Contamination of a food supply at a Nebraska food processor. Contamination could be introduced through using contaminated ingredients, through improperly operating or improperly cleaned equipment, or by the intentional introduction of a contaminant.

3. Contamination of a food supply during transportation. Contamination during transportation could occur by using improperly constructed or improperly cleaned equipment. Persons could also cause contamination by willfully introducing a contaminant into the transporting vehicle.

4. Contamination of a food supply at the retail level. Contamination at the retail level could come through accidental or negligent means, such as a time/temperature abuse, or by an overt act by a person or persons.

5. Any of the above scenarios could cause a food borne illness in the state. Steps to mitigate these scenarios are taken to prevent and/or diminish food borne illness.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. In the planning stage for Emergency Support Function 11 (ESF-11), it is recognized that under some agriculture disaster scenarios, especially those encompassing multiple (hundreds of) sites, the need for resources is tremendous.

B. Before, during, and immediately following a Governor's emergency proclamation, ESF-11 will be followed when requests for agricultural related assistance are made. When ESF-11 is activated, NDA, the ESF-11 Coordinator Agency, will provide a representative to serve as the NEMA designated ESF Coordinator (ESFC)

C. Federal agencies may provide support during emergency events. The United States Department of Agriculture has the power, in certain circumstances, to declare an emergency.

D. Upon State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) request, the ESFC will be available to respond to requests submitted through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). The ESFC will identify which participating departments/agencies/associations are needed, and will take steps to ensure that the departments/agencies/associations are activated or on alert as appropriate.

E. The level of response to an event depends on the extent and severity of that event. While a natural disaster might bring about a short-lived, local response, the introduction of a major food contamination or highly contagious animal disease could initiate a response from multiple sectors in multiple jurisdictions.

V. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA).

1. NDA is the Coordinator Agency for ESF-11. In the planning stages for ESF-11, NDA will do the following:

a. Develop and maintain a listing of principle contacts for all agency and association assets available to support a response and/or recovery mission. Volunteer and local agencies may be requested to contribute assets to the response effort.

b. Position resources in advance, or when it becomes apparent that resources will be required.

c. Develop a preparation/response/recovery plan which includes the logistical requirements necessary to obtain needed equipment.

d. Prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.

e. Coordinate with support departments/agencies and associations to prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.

2. When ESF-11 is activated, the following operational requests may be made of the ESFC and/or other NDA personnel. The extent of the response will vary depending on the scope of the disaster or emergency incident and the resources that are available with which to respond. Generally, NDA will do the following:

a. The NDA Chief Administrator, or designated alternate, will serve as the Emergency Support Function Coordinator (ESFC) at the NEMA Emergency Operation Center (EOC).

b. Provide overall leadership, coordination, assessment and technical assistance in response to highly contagious animal diseases, plant diseases and crop and food contamination.

c. Provide support departments/agencies/associations with current information concerning locations of outbreaks, extent of involvement and available diagnostic information.

d. The ESFC will identify which participating departments, agencies, and/or associations are needed, and take steps to ensure that they are activated or on alert, as appropriate.

e. Collect samples, and forward to appropriate laboratory.

f. Provide communication through the NDA Public Information Officer (PIO), including information that may come through federal counterparts. Also, the PIO will be the primary contact with other states, through the "Emergency Communications Plan" developed by the Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture (COSDA). The purpose of this communications plan is to share critical information with all participating states in a timely manner in order to better manage the public message in an emergency situation that is regional or national in scope. A copy of this plan is found as Attachment 1 of this Annex.

g. Establish communications with appropriate field personnel and ensure that they are ready to respond in a timely manner.

h. Provide information on local agricultural conditions, resources, and producers.

i. Accumulate contamination/disease information obtained from assessment teams, the telecommunications industry, the local emergency operations center, and other local, state, and federal agencies.

j. Prepare and process reports using established procedures, focusing specific attention to the production of after-action reports.

k. Continually reassess priorities to address the most critical needs.

l. Track resources which are committed to specific missions.

m. Redeploy and restage resources as appropriate.

n. Coordinate movement of any resource that may be needed in order to mitigate an event, and in recovery, from the potential disaster area(s) to the nearest staging area, including evacuation and re-entry of a designated area.

3. NDA, through the Bureau of Dairies and Foods (DAF), has regulatory authority over food and food products. Responses are specified for the major scenarios described above in “Assumptions”.

   a. Contamination of a harvested food supply at the grower level.

      1) Work with the grower(s) to determine:

         a) Product(s) involved.

         b) Type of contamination (i.e., biological, chemical, mineral).

         c) Time frame of contamination.

         d) Distribution of the product.

      2) Notify area hospitals, doctors, and local health departments to note increase in illness through the Health Alert Network (HAN).

      3) Notify appropriate authorities which may include FDA, USDA, NSP, and FBI.

      4) Utilize NDA Laboratory and/or other laboratory services for sample analysis.

5) Initiate recall of involved products.

6) Determine product handling and disposal of affected product.

7) Maintain records, including chain of custody records.

8) Work through NDA PIO for communication needs.

b. Contamination of a food supply at a food processor.

1) Notify local hospitals, doctors, and health departments through the Health Alert Network (HAN).

2) Work with manufacturing plant(s) and distributors to identify specific products implicated, lot codes, production dates, and to determine distribution area, and ensure immediate, total recall of the product(s); monitoring of same.

3) Work with authorities to determine cause of contamination, involving necessary enforcement agencies (e.g., NSP, FBI, FDA).

4) Utilize NDA Laboratory and/or other laboratory services for sample analysis.

5) Determine product handling and disposal needs and concerns.

6) Determine what additional resources are necessary, including use of local health department staff.

7) Maintain records, including chain of custody records.

8) Working through NDA PIO for communication needs.

c. Contamination of a food supply during transportation.

1) Work with the transportation company involved to determine:

a) Product (s) involved.

b) Type of contamination (i.e., biological, chemical, mineral).

c) Time frame of contamination.

d) Distribution of the product.

2) Notify area hospitals, doctors, and health departments to note increase in illness, through the Health Alert Network (HAN).

3) Notify appropriate authorities which may include FDA, USDA, NSP, and FBI.

4) Utilize NDA Laboratory and/or other laboratory services for sample analysis.

5) Initiate recall of involved products.

6) Determine product handling and disposal of affected product.

7) Maintain records, including chain of custody records.

8) Work through NDA PIO for communication needs.

d. Contamination of a food supply at the retail level.

1) Work with the retailer(s) to determine:

a) Product (s) involved.

b) Type of contamination (i.e., biological, chemical, mineral).

c) Time frame of contamination.

2) Notify area hospitals, doctors, and health departments to note increase in illness, through the Health Alert Network (HAN).

3) Notify appropriate authorities which may include FDA, USDA, NSP, and FBI.

4) Utilize NDA Laboratory and/or other laboratory services for sample analysis.

5) Initiate recall of involved products.

6) Determine product handling and disposal of affected product.

7) Maintain records, including chain of custody records.

8) Work through PIO for communication needs.

e. Food borne illness.

1) Notify local area food sanitarian.

2) Notify/work with HHSS State Epidemiologist, to obtain a list of individuals, and secure food samples.

3) Notify NDA Laboratory of possible incoming samples.

4) Notify FDA, CDC for possible assistance.

5) Notify law enforcement, if not a naturally occurring event.

6) Work with NDA PIO regarding communications.

B. Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary containment practices and procedures for carcass disposal and decontamination advice/planning.

2. Provide on-site assistance regarding environmental issues stemming from disposal and/or decontamination activities.

C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary mapping information, to include specific information on topography and water tables.

2. Provide on-site mapping assistance.

D. Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR).

1. Provide guidance for re-routing of traffic in and around the affected area(s).

2. Identify traffic control issues and/or needs.

3 Assist with the transport of soil, carcasses, or debris.

4. Identify potential sources of outside assistance, (i.e., contractors, equipment sources, etc.)

E. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

1. Activate and operate the SEOC; provide liaisons to affected jurisdictions; prepare situation reports for the Governor and receive and act on requests for assistance from county emergency managers/directors; coordinate the state's response with local governments; coordinate with FEMA and the

Federal Response Plan; and, assist in the coordination of disaster related public information.

2. Provide equipment and supplies, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) necessary to facilitate movement/destruction/disposal of contaminated product.

3. Provide communications to responders, especially in remote areas of the state.

4. Provide decontamination equipment and supplies (including PPE), and chemicals necessary to decontaminate individuals and equipment, taking necessary environmental precautions.

F. Nebraska Health and Human Services Systems (HHSS).

1. Provide overall leadership, coordination, assessment, and technical assistance for public health needs in the event of a disaster or emergency, including mass care and quarantine needs.

2. Provide assistance and epidemiology services in dealing with zoonotic diseases.

3. Determine the potability of water supplies and identifying other drinking water sources.

4. Provide mental health support to survivors, emergency responders, those that suffer significant property loss, and the public in general to prevent or minimize stress, grief, and depression that can occur following natural or manmade disasters.

G. Nebraska Military Department (MIL).

1. Provide containment and/or quarantine assistance to prevent the spread of highly contagious diseases.

2. Provide incident security and traffic control, including management of approved entry to a site.

3. Provide transportation for responders to and within sites.

4. Provide protection to responders.

H. Nebraska State Fire Marshal (SFM).

1. Provide “Incident Management” training to local responders, including specialized training for handling animal incidents, including those where there are decontamination concerns.

I. Nebraska State Patrol (NSP).

1. Provide incident security, including management of approved entry to a site, law enforcement, and traffic control, as needed.

2. Provide containment and/or quarantine assistance.

3. Provide protection to responders.

4. Provide communication resources.

5. Provide local law enforcement response, as required.

J. University of Nebraska System (UNS).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages.

2. Provide surveillance assistance in prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory services for food related analytical needs.

K. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages.

2. Provide technical resources during prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory assistance.

4. Provide “Emergency Declaration” where necessary.

5. Provide indemnification, to include the cost of animals, and costs associated with an incident.

L. United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

1. Provide technical assistance in planning stages for food contamination issues.

2. Provide technical assistance during prevention/response/recovery stages.

3. Provide laboratory assistance.

M. Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD).

Coordinate provision of food and temporary shelter on-site, especially when an area is quarantined.

N. Associations

Industry associations, and their national and local components, are an invaluable resource for emergency prevention, preparation, response, and recovery. Responsibilities under ESF-11 include:

1. Maintain lists of members, and other significant stakeholders, including lists of potential resources (i.e., transportation, equipment pre-positioning).

2. Provide guidance and advice on site/plant security, potential response activity, and other appropriate information to members, based on industry and NDA recommendations,

3. Provide information to NDA regarding technological advances in the industry which may impact on handling emergencies,

4. Provide information to NDA regarding activities which might affect emergency response, including information about specific sites.

VI. TRAINING/EXERCISES

All agencies with responsibilities listed in this annex should provide annual training. An orientation and/or tabletop exercise should be conducted annually to ensure adequate response to a threatened or actual outbreak of disease of non-human population as a result of a non-medical disaster. The objectives for these exercises should be based on the policies and procedures identified in this plan.

VII. AUTHORITY

A. Federal Government.

1. Legal authority for the United States Department of Agriculture for response procedures for animal disease events, as identified in this Appendix, may be found in USC Title 21, Section 134(a).

2. Legal authority for the United States Health and Human Services Agency, Food and Drug Administration (USFDA), is found in the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, Title 21 CFR, parts 500-599.

B. State Government (NEMA and NDA).

1. Legal authority for the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's response procedures as identified in this Appendix may be found in the Emergency Management Act of 1996, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-829.36 to 81-829.75 (Reissue 1996 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

2. Legal authority for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture's response procedures for food activities as identified in this Appendix may be found in the following Act: the Nebraska Pure Food Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-2,257 to 81-2,261 (Reissue 1996 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

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MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS CONTAMINATION RESPONSE PLAN

Participating Departments/Agencies/Associations

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
United States Department of Agriculture;
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS)
- Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA/APHIS/PPQ)
- Veterinary Services (USDA/APHIS/VS)

Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA)
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR)
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
Nebraska Health and Human Services (HHSS)
Nebraska Military Department (MIL)
Nebraska State Fire Marshal (SFM)
Nebraska State Patrol (NSP)
University of Nebraska Systems (UNS)
Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)
Nebraska Dairymen's Association
Nebraska Food Industry Association
Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association

I. PURPOSE

A. To provide for coordinated measures and procedures designed to detect and control milk and dairy product contamination incidents as quickly as possible within the State of Nebraska.

B. To generate immediate, appropriate local, state and federal measures to eliminate the crisis and minimize the consequences in order to return the State of Nebraska to a contamination free status.

II. SITUATION

A. Nebraska agricultural industries provide much of the food consumed by the state's residents. There are approximately 460 Grade A dairy producers and 50 manufacturing milk producers located in Nebraska. There are approximately 180 milk haulers operating for 32 transport companies. On a monthly basis, these haulers bring 97 million pounds of milk to the 15 Nebraska dairy plants, for production into milk and milk products. A major contamination or outbreak of disease could negatively affect the supply of milk and dairy products to inhabitants.

B. Nebraska agricultural industries are critical to the economic well being of the state's economy. A major contamination or outbreak of disease could negatively affect the dairy industry and those businesses that depend on it. Export of milk and dairy products would decrease. Businesses would fail. Tax revenue generated directly and indirectly would diminish dramatically. If the contamination spread to other states, it could have a devastating impact on the United States' ability to compete in the global marketplace.

C. A major contamination event or outbreak of disease could create environmental and public health hazards to the human population including exposure to hazardous materials and contaminated milk and dairy products. There could also be a significant mental health impact.

D. Response to dairy related incidents may involve local, state, federal and other entities. No single local or state agency has full authority and expertise to act unilaterally, nor do they have the resources necessary to deal with a large-scale situation.

III. ASSUMPTIONS

A. The identification of contaminated milk or dairy products within the United States would affect the State of Nebraska.

B. Positive detection of such a contamination elsewhere will prompt state officials to employ additional precautions to prevent or mitigate the possibility of an occurrence locally.

C. There is a potential for the farming community, as well as local and state officials, to receive a threat of contamination as a mechanism of terrorism. They may also witness or be a victim of an event. If an incident were confirmed as being a terrorist event, the Terrorism/WMD Annex of the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) would be utilized in conjunction with this Appendix.

D. Numerous local, state and federal agencies will play a role in mitigating an agricultural event. Operations regarding remediation and recovery have the potential to involve a massive amount of resources, due to the sheer volume potential.

E. Several to numerous associations may play a role. These associations, and their local and national counterparts, have the ability to communicate rapidly with individual members, providing two-way communication regarding pre-planning through emergency response and recovery.

F. Large quantities of milk and/or dairy products may need to be destroyed or controlled to prevent the spread of contamination or disease after it has been confirmed within the State.

G. Vector control may be necessary. Vector-borne diseases can spread very quickly, necessitating quick response over a potentially wide area.

H. Immediate quarantine areas may be required where suspect or confirmed cases may have originated, and may require special operational procedures.

I. Eradication of the causative agent will require proper sanitary and disposal procedures for animal carcasses, plant materials, food, milk and/or dairy products. Suspect infected or contaminated premises and transport vehicles may need to be cleaned and disinfected. Bio-security guidelines may need to be established and implemented.

J. Environmental protection regulations or procedures may need to be temporarily suspended to allow timely and efficient disposal of euthanized livestock and wildlife, plant materials, food, milk, and/or dairy products.

K. There are several scenarios under which dairy related incidents could affect the State of Nebraska. This could result in the creation and enforcement of movement controls of people, livestock, food, milk and dairy products, and other property. Possible major scenarios are:

1. Intentional chemical, biological or viral contamination of milk at the farm level. There are several pathways for milk to become contaminated at a producer's site. This could be through natural causes, such as an undiagnosed animal disease which would pass a pathogen into the milk, or through introduction of a chemical or pathogen. Contamination could come either by accidental or negligent introduction or by a willful or terrorist event.

2. Intentional chemical, biological or viral contamination of milk during transportation. Contamination during transportation could come through improperly maintained or cleaned vehicles, or accidental introduction of a contagion. Also, a willful or terrorist introduction could be made. These things could occur at various points along the route, including when the driver is away from the vehicle, if the vehicle is not properly secured.

3. Intentional chemical, biological or viral contamination of the milk supply at the processing plant. This could occur pre-processing, through the accidental or intentional introduction of a contagion. Also, contamination could occur post-production during the packaging process, probably by persons familiar with pasteurization and with the packaging process.

4. Contamination of a dairy product at the retail level. Contamination at the retail level is covered under the Food Operations Appendix, Appendix 3 of ESF-11.

5. Any of the above scenarios could cause a food borne illness in the state. Steps to mitigate these scenarios are taken to prevent and/or diminish food borne illness.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. In the planning stage for Emergency Support Function 11 (ESF-11), it is recognized that under some agriculture disaster scenarios, especially those encompassing multiple (hundreds of) sites, the need for resources is tremendous.

B. Before, during, and immediately following a Governor's emergency proclamation, ESF-11 will be followed when requests for agricultural related assistance are made. When ESF-11 is activated, NDA, the ESF-11 Coordinator Agency, will provide a representative to serve as the NEMA designated ESF Coordinator (ESFC).

C. Federal agencies may provide support during emergency events. The United States Department of Agriculture has the power, in certain circumstances, to declare an emergency.

D. Upon State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) request, the ESFC will be available to respond to requests submitted through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA.) The ESFC will identify which participating departments/agencies/associations are needed, and will take steps to insure that the departments/agencies/associations are activated or on alert as appropriate.

E. The level of response to an event depends on the extent and severity of that event. While a natural disaster might bring about a short-lived, local response, the introduction of a major milk or dairy product contamination could initiate a response from multiple sectors in multiple jurisdictions.

V. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA).

1. NDA is the Coordinator Agency for ESF-11. In the planning stages for ESF-11, NDA will do the following:

a. Develop and maintain a listing of principle contacts for all agency and association assets available to support a response and/or recovery mission. Volunteer and local agencies may be requested to contribute assets to the response effort.

b. Position resources in advance, or when it becomes apparent that resources will be required.

c. Develop a preparation/response/recovery plan which includes the logistical requirements necessary to obtain needed resources.

d. Prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.

e. Coordinate with support departments/agencies and associations to prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.

2. When ESF-11 is activated, the following operational requests may be made of the ESFC and/or other NDA personnel. The extent of the response will vary depending on the scope of the disaster or emergency incident and the resources that are available with which to respond. Generally, NDA will do the following:

a. The NDA Chief Administrator, or designated alternate, will serve as the Emergency Support Function Coordinator (ESFC) at the NEMA Emergency Operation Center (EOC).

b. Provide overall leadership, coordination, assessment and technical assistance in response to milk and dairy product contamination.

c. Provide support departments/agencies/associations with current information concerning locations of outbreaks, extent of involvement, and available diagnostic information.

d. The ESFC will identify which participating departments, agencies, and/or associations are needed, and take steps to ensure that they are activated or on alert, as appropriate.

e. Collect samples and forward to appropriate laboratory.

f. Provide communication through the NDA Public Information Officer (PIO), including information that may come through federal counterparts. Also, the PIO will be the primary contact with other states, through the “Emergency Communications Plan” developed by the Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture (COSDA). The purpose of this communications plan is to share critical information with all participating states in a timely manner in order to better manage the public message in an emergency situation that is regional or national in scope. A copy of this plan is found as Attachment 1 in ESF-11.

g. Establish communications with appropriate field personnel and ensure that they are ready to respond in a timely manner.

h. Provide information on local agricultural conditions, resources, and producers.

i. Accumulate contamination/disease information obtained from assessment teams, the telecommunications industry, the local emergency operations center, and other local, state, and federal agencies.

j. Prepare and process reports using established procedures, focusing specific attention to the production of after-action reports.

k. Continually reassess priorities to address the most critical needs.

l. Track resources which are committed to specific missions.

m. Re-deploy and re-stage resources as appropriate.

n. Coordinate movement of any resource that may be needed in order to mitigate an event, and in recovery, from the potential disaster area to the nearest staging area, including evacuation and re-entry of a designated area.

3. NDA, through the Bureau of Dairies and Foods (DAF), has regulatory authority over milk and dairy products. Responses are specified for the major scenarios described above in “Assumptions”.

a. Contamination of milk at the producer level.

1) Logistically, a contamination in milk would not be detected at the farm level, even though it may have been introduced into the milk at the farm. The milk hauler who picks up the milk should smell, sample, and observe the milk prior to pumping it onto his truck, but the milk is not tested until it arrives at a processing plant. The milk is tested for beta-lactam drug residues prior to processing. Other contaminates, if odorless and tasteless, and not affected by pasteurization or other manufacturing processes may not be detected until such time as consumers become ill.

2) When a contamination is suspected or confirmed prior to pick up at the farm, the milk will not be picked up. It would be isolated on the farm until confirmation of possible contaminates can be confirmed and a proper method of disposal can be determined.

a) Work with authorities to determine cause of contamination, involving necessary enforcement agencies (e.g., NSP, FBI, FDA).

b) Utilize NDA Laboratory and/or other laboratory services for sample analysis.

c) Determine product handling and disposal needs and concerns, involving DEQ and/or EPA, as necessary.

d) Determine what additional resources are necessary.

e) Maintain records, including chain of custody records.

f) Work through PIO for communication needs.

b. Contamination of milk during transportation.

1) Contamination of milk could occur during transportation. Bulk milk trucks and tankers may be left unattended overnight or while a driver stops for a meal. For this reason, seals are normally placed on all tank entry ports after it is washed and sanitized, Seal information is recorded and seals are kept in place except when the tanker is filling or in the direct supervision of permitted or authorized personnel.

2) When the seals have been tampered with, and there is not a proper explanation, the load should be isolated until possible contaminates can be confirmed and a proper method of disposal can be determined.

a) Work with authorities to determine cause of contamination, involving necessary enforcement agencies (e.g., NSP, FBI, FDA).

b) Utilize State Laboratory and/or other laboratory services for sample analysis.

c) Determine product handling and disposal needs and concerns. Could involve DEQ and/or EPA.

d) Determine what additional resources are necessary.

e) Maintain records, including chain of custody records.

f) Work through PIO for communication needs.

c. Contamination of a dairy product at a processing facility.

1) Notify local hospitals, doctors, and health departments when illness has occurred or is suspected.

2) Work with dairy plant(s) to identify specific products implicated (specific product, lot codes, dates of production), determine distribution area, and to ensure immediate, total recall of the product(s); monitoring of same.

3) Work with authorities to determine cause of contamination, involving necessary enforcement agencies (e.g., NSP, FBI, FDA).

4) Utilize NDA Laboratory and/or other laboratory services for sample analysis.

5) Determine product handling and disposal needs and concerns.

6) Determine what additional resources are necessary.

7) Maintain records, including chain of custody records.

8) Working through PIO for communication needs.

9) Contamination of a dairy product at the retail level.

10) Immediately notify the plant and request management to immediately institute a recall of all possible product, and to discontinue operation of implicated product.

11) Notify doctors and hospitals when illness has occurred or is suspected.

12) Immediately begin an inspection/investigation at the plant to determine how the contamination occurred. This could include verification of where pathogens might be introduced through addition of raw ingredients, etc. Check with management about possible disgruntled employees. Verify the critical control elements of the processing plant, and monitor paperwork and controls, pasteurization charts, wash charts, etc.

13) Utilize NDA laboratory, industry and/or other laboratory services, if necessary. Test recalled product to determine extent of contamination. Test ingredients, and take and test swabs from equipment, when feasible.

14) When intentional adulteration is suspected, work with enforcement, such as NSP, FBI, FDA.

15) Monitor product recall to ensure all product is accounted for, by reviewing invoices and other storage or shipping records.

16) Determine proper disposal of product, consulting with other authorities (DEQ), when appropriate.

17) Work with PIO to prepare press releases as deemed necessary to best protect consumers.

18) Document conditions under which any products are reworked or destroyed.

d. Food borne illness.

B. Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary containment practices and procedures for product and carcass disposal.

2. Provide on-site assistance regarding environmental issues stemming from disposal and/or decontamination activities.

C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

1. Provide technical assistance in the disaster planning stage to provide necessary mapping information, to include specific information on topography and water tables.

2. Provide on-site mapping assistance.

D. Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR).

1. Provide guidance for re-routing of traffic in and around the affected area(s).

2. Identify traffic control issues and/or needs.

3. Assist with the transport of soil, carcasses, or debris.

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5. Provide indemnification, to include the cost of animals, and costs associated with an incident.

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2. Legal authority for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture's response procedures for dairy activities as identified in this Appendix may be found in the following Acts: the Nebraska Pasteurized Milk Law, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§S2-3901 to 2-3911 (Reissue 1997 and Cum Supp. 2002), and the Nebraska Manufacturing Milk Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§2-3913 to 2-3946 (Reissue 1997 and Cum. Supp. 2002).

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